AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. to 9. (Cancelled)

10.   (Currently Amended) An image processing method which is executed by a server computer capable of being connected, ~~through a network,~~ to an image forming unit, which has a calibration function to obtain correction data by forming and measuring a patch, and to plural client computers, said method comprising:

an obtaining step of obtaining the correction data by communicating with the image forming unit, ~~through the network~~, wherein said correction data is automatically obtained from the image forming unit, which executes the calibration function in the image forming unit to obtain the correction data;

a receiving step of receiving a <u>color-matched</u> printing job from the client computer;

a correcting step of performing, using the correction data obtained from the image forming unit, a correction process on image data included in the printing job received from the client computer; and

an outputting step of outputting the image data corrected in said correcting step to the image forming unit<u>,</u>

<u>wherein color-matching image processing is performed by the client computer</u>.

11. to 12. (Cancelled)

13.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program to achieve an image processing method which is executed by a server computer capable of being connected, through a network, to an image forming unit, which has a calibration function to obtain correction data by forming and measuring a patch, and to plural client computers, said method comprising:

an obtaining step of obtaining the correction data by communicating with the image forming unit, through the network, wherein said correction data is automatically obtained from the image forming unit, which executes the calibration function in the image forming unit to obtain the correction data;

a receiving step of receiving a color-matched printing job from the client computer;

a correcting step of performing, using the correction data obtained from the image forming unit, a correction process on image data included in the printing job received from the client computer; and

an outputting step of outputting the image data corrected in said correcting step to the image forming unit,

wherein color-matching image processing is performed by the client computer.

14.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable program to achieve an image processing method which is executed by a server computer capable of being connected, through a network, to an image forming unit, which has a calibration function to

- 3 -

obtain correction data by forming and measuring a patch, and to plural client computers, said program comprising:

an obtaining module that obtains the correction data by communicating with the image forming unit, wherein said correction data is automatically obtained from the image forming unit, which executes the calibration function in the image forming unit to obtain the correction data;

a receiving module that receives a color-matched printing job from the client computer;

a correcting module that performs, using the correction data obtained from the image forming unit, a correction process on image data included in the printing job received from the client computer; and

an outputting module that outputs the image data corrected by said correcting module to the image forming unit,

wherein color-matching image processing is performed by the client computer.

15.   (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 10, wherein said obtaining step is repeated within a predetermined time interval to obtain the correction data from the image forming unit.

16.   (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the image forming unit automatically executes the calibration function according to a condition of state parameters of the image forming unit.

17.   (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 10, further comprising the step of judging whether or not the correction data should be updated, by comparing additional information of the latest correction data obtained by communicating with the image forming unit with additional information of the correction data already stored.

18.   (Previously Presented) A storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein said obtaining step is repeated within a predetermined time interval to obtain the correction data from the image forming unit.

19.   (Previously Presented) A storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein the image forming unit automatically executes the calibration function according to a condition of state parameters of the image forming unit.

20.   (Previously Presented) A storage medium according to Claim 13, further comprising the step of judging whether or not the correction data should be updated, by comparing additional information of the latest correction data obtained by communicating with the image forming unit with additional information of the correction data already stored.

21.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable program according to

Claim 14, wherein said obtaining step is repeated within a pre-determined time interval to obtain the correction data from the image forming unit.

22.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable program according to Claim 14, wherein the image forming unit automatically executes the calibration function according to a condition of state parameters of the image forming unit.

23.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable program according to Claim 14, wherein said program further comprises the step of judging whether or not the correction data should be updated, by comparing additional information of the latest correction data obtained by communicating with the image forming unit with additional information of the correction data already stored.

24.   (New) An image processing method which is executed in a server computer capable of being connected to an image forming unit, which has a calibration function to obtain correction data by forming and measuring a patch, and to plural client computers, said method comprising:

an obtaining step of automatically obtaining from the image forming unit the correction data by communicating with the image forming unit, wherein the calibration function is executed in the image forming unit to obtain the correction data;

a receiving step of receiving a printing job from the client computer;

a correcting step of performing, using conversion data used in color matching for the image forming unit, a color matching process to the image data included

in the printing job received from the client computer, and performing a correction process

using the correction data obtained from the image forming unit; and

an outputting step of outputting the image data corrected in said correcting

step to the image forming unit.